

SOUTHERN STANDARD.

VOLUME II.

COLUMBUS, LOWNDES COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1852.

NUMBER 1.

The Southern Standard

IS ISSUED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING BY
CHAPMAN & SMITH,
At three dollars per annum, in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS—First insertion (ten lines or less) \$1.00; for each subsequent insertion, 50 cents. The number of insertions must be specified on the face of the copy furnished, or it will be published until for sale and charged as above.

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On yearly advertisements, a liberal discount will be made. The privilege of yearly advertisements will be limited to their own immediate business; advertisements sent in by them embracing other matter, will be charged for by the square.

Letters on business connected with the office must be post paid to insure attention.

COLUMBUS:

Wednesday Morning, January 28, 1852.

State Railroad Convention.

JACKSON, Miss., January 12, 1852.

The Rail Road Convention of Mississippi met in accordance with previous appointment, at 3 o'clock, in the Hall of the House of Representatives.

On motion of J. D. Elliott, of Hinds, Judge Watts, of Neshoba, was called to the chair, and on motion of Col. Tarpley, Robert Bowman, of Yazoo, was appointed Secretary.

On further motion, the Chair appointed J. D. Elliott, G. H. Foote, Wm. Wilson, R. Barton and C. F. Hemmingsway a committee to report suitable officers to the Convention.

The committee reported: For President, Judge Watts, of Neshoba; for Vice Presidents, Col. C. S. Tarpley, of Hinds, Judge Hardiman, of Neshoba, W. Cotton, of Carroll, Jas. M. Howry, of Jefferson, John Wall, of Amite, Mr. Rabb, of New Orleans, Chaiborne Harris, of Holmes, and J. M. Cunningham, for Secretaries, Robert Bowman, of Yazoo, Green P. Foote, of Hinds, J. Beauchamp, of Neshoba, and M. D. Haynes, of Yazoo, which was received.

On motion of Col. C. S. Tarpley, the counties were called, and the following delegates presented themselves from their respective counties:

List of Counties and Delegates.

Amite—John Wall, J. M. Gallant.
Attala—George Pope, Samuel W. Goudrey, John B. Henshaw, J. A. P. Campbell.
Calhoun—Mr. Martin, E. R. Brown.
Carroll—C. F. Hemmingsway, J. S. Johnson, H. H. Southworth, Charles Kappal, W. Cochran.
Chickasaw—W. S. Featherston, R. G. Steele, J. W. Thompson, H. S. Hill, J. A. Orr.
Choctaw—J. F. Lindsey, P. F. Liddell, James Drane.

Columbia—T. L. Alcorn, J. W. King, Clarke—Mr. Wall, W. A. Ward, R. A. Henley, Benj. Estes, C. Mayherhoff.

De Soto—W. D. Lachlan.
Hinds—C. S. Tarpley, Geo. R. Fall, Wm. S. Langley, D. W. Adams, David Shelton, Jno. D. Elliott, P. Garland, A. M. Foote, R. Warlock, D. O. Williams, James Ware, John L. Guion, C. E. Hooker, J. W. Robinson, G. P. Foote, Professor Dimetry, C. R. Clifton, F. C. Jones, Jas. W. Downey, M. W. Phillips, Thos. L. Dabney, F. J. Kelley, Benj. Whitfield, Jno. K. Jefferson, Doctor Thompson, Alex. Minnas, A. R. Green, O. V. Shearer, G. W. Gibbs, Lesse Lott, Geo. Minnas, Doctor Stockhouse, Dr. Read, John Coon, W. H. Dean, Thos. J. Harper, Isaac N. Selser, and Thos. J. Catchings.

Harrison—W. D. Hathorn, R. Seal, J. L. Henley, A. W. Ramsay.

Holmes—Morgan McAfee, H. C. Adams, C. Harris, W. Brooke, Morgan L. Fitch, William S. Boling, Jas. B. Owens.

Kemper—John J. Pettus, Peter H. Cole, Jefferson—H. Hines.

Lafayette—J. N. Davis, Jacob Thompson, James M. Hoary, Chas. G. Butler, Jas. F. Smith, Robert Profit, J. E. Talliaferro.

Lauderdale—S. L. Hussey, W. S. Patton, J. R. McLartin, George Word.

Leake—R. E. Halford.

Lowndes—C. R. Cruser, W. P. Jack, William Barksdale, John Seal, W. D. Chapman, James Whitfield.

Madison—Wm. McWille, T. C. Tupper, C. C. Shackelford.

Marshall—Robert Taylor, John Gibson, J. H. R. Taylor, A. B. Bradford, T. Benton, Harvey Mable, Jeremiah Clapp, Roger Barton, James Autry, Samuel Dill.

Monroe—Stephen Cooke, J. W. Speight, Thos. Coopwood, J. A. Sullivan.

Newton—W. H. McCurdy.

Neshoba—J. W. Cunningham, Geo. H. Foote, H. L. Jarman, W. N. Roby, J. M. Hardiman, W. D. Longstreet, J. J. Beauchamp.

Panola—W. L. Keith.

Pontotoc—Jeff. Wilson, J. C. Jones, Gen. Jno. Bell.

Pike—J. E. J. Sasser.

Scott—D. R. Jones.

Tallahatchie—James Slack.

Tishomingo—A. E. Reynolds, Geo. Tankersley, Jas. Box, W. B. Terry, C. A. Taylor.

Tippah—Joel H. Berry, John D. Barker, M. W. Moody, H. A. Cook, J. D. Berry.

Winston—Hon. T. J. Hughes, Erastus Huntley, J. W. Smythe, J. B. McLeland, Nathaniel Woodward.

Yalobusha—George S. Gokiday, Simpson Parks, C. H. Gay, E. S. Fisher, Lewis Aldridge.

Yazoo—H. J. Thomas, Douglas King, J. C. Bridgforth, R. Bowman, Geo. W. Dougherty, Josephus Love, C. Bowman.

Mr. Whitfield submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That W. G. Clark, and C. A. Bradford be admitted to seats in this Convention, as representatives of the Mobile and Ohio Rail Road Company.

On motion of Mr. Davis, of Lafayette, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the rules of the House of Representatives, so far as they are applicable, be adopted for the government of the Convention.

Mr. Drane offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the members of the Legislature be invited to participate in the deliberations of this body.

On motion of Mr. Dougherty of Yazoo, it was resolved, That members of the Legislature, invited to seats in this Convention, be fully entitled to represent their respective counties, and allowed an equal vote with other members of this Convention.

After some discussion on this resolution between Mr. Dougherty, of Yazoo, Mr. Foote, of Neshoba, and others, Mr. Adams, of Hinds, offered the following resolution, as additional to the resolution of Mr. Dougherty, which was adopted with Mr. Dougherty's resolution:

Resolved, That the appointment of representatives in this Convention be fixed upon the basis of the representation of each county in the House of Representatives in the Legislature of the State, and that each county be entitled to so many votes, to be cast by each person as may be selected by their respective delegations.

Col. C. S. Tarpley, of Hinds, submitted the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That three committees be appointed, consisting of one member from each Congressional District, and two for the State at large; one to be called a Committee on Routes, one to be called a Committee on Ways and Means, the other to be called a Committee on Resolutions, to whom shall be referred all resolutions pertaining to these respective subjects.

The President, in pursuance of this resolution appointed Roger Barton, W. S. Featherston, Wm. S. Langley, John Wall, and for the State at large, Gov. Whitfield and Wm. McWille, a committee on Resolutions.

Committee on Ways and Means—C. S. Tarpley, John Hardiman, Jacob Thompson, W. A. Stone; and for the State at large, George Word, and D. W. Adams.

Mr. Brooke, of Holmes, moved a reconsideration of Mr. Tarpley's resolution. The resolution being reconsidered, Mr. Brooke then moved that the resolution be so amended that the committee on routes should consist of one member from each Senatorial District.

The resolution was re-adopted with the amendment.

On motion, the Convention adjourned until 3 o'clock, to-morrow.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. On motion of J. D. Elliott, Mr. Bradford was added to the list of Vice Presidents.

Mr. Brooke, of Holmes, offered a resolution, that the Convention memorialize the Legislature for a donation sufficient to purchase two hundred negroes, to leave a certain portion of the Mississippi River. Referred to the committee on resolutions.

The President, in pursuance of the amendment of Mr. Brooke to the resolution of Col. Tarpley, made the following apportionment on the committee of Routes:

COMMITTEE ON ROUTES.

Adams, Franklin and Wilkinson—H. Cassidy, Amite and Pike—Nelson.

Attala and Leake—Hemphill.
Carroll—Kappal.
Covington—Bynum.

Chickasaw and Oktibbeha—Steele.
Choctaw and Jefferson—H. Hinds.
Choctaw—Hemphill.
De Soto—Tait.

Hancock—Hathorn.
Holmes and Sunflower—M. L. Fitch.
Hinds—C. S. Tarpley.
Itawamba—R. O. Beene.

Jasper and Clarke—Mayherhoff.
Lauderdale and Newton—Gen. Patton.
Lawrence and Marion—Stone.

Lefayette—J. N. Davis.
Lowndes—J. S. Taylor.
Madison and Scott—T. C. Tupper.
Marshall—Roger Barton.

Monroe—Thomas Coopwood.
Neshoba and Kemper—J. J. Pettus.
Pontotoc—Gen. Jno. Bell.
Paloalto, Tallahatchie and Choctaw—W. L. Keith.

Rankin and Smith—Bennet.
Simpson and Copiah—Brown.
Tippah—J. H. Berry.

Tishomingo—C. A. Taylor.
Warren—Marshall.
Winston and Neshoba—J. W. Cunningham.
Yazoo and Issaquena—G. W. Dougherty.

Yalobusha—Simpson Parks.
On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet to-morrow at 3 o'clock, p. m.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14th.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. The committee on routes, through the Secretary, R. Bowman, made the following report, which was agreed to and received.

The committee, to whom was referred the proposal of routes to the Convention, beg leave to report the following preamble and resolutions, which embody in the opinion of your committee, the most practicable routes for the consideration of the Convention, at the present time, together with other subjects worthy its notice.

Preamble and Resolutions.

"Whereas, in commencing any system of Internal improvements, it is of the utmost importance, to lay down a proper plan as a grand basis for future operations. And, whereas, it is, in the commencement, projects should be too numerous, or diffusive, on one hand, or too partial and contracted on the other, it would result in the inevitable embarrassment, if not total defeat. Therefore:

"Resolved, That the New Orleans and Jackson Railroad be extended to the Tennessee line, the Mobile and Ohio Railroad, the Memphis and Charleston Railroad, so far as any of said roads shall be located within this State.

"The Southern Railroad, and also the construction of a Levee on the Mississippi river are works which would form a grand basis for a magnificent system of Internal improvements in the state of Mississippi, and are eminently entitled to the fostering care and liberal aid of the legislature of this State.

All of which is respectfully submitted."

R. BOWMAN, Secy.
On motion, the report of the committee on routes was reconsidered.

Mr. Berry, of Tippah, offered the following amendment to the report, which was adopted.

That after the words, "extended to the Tennessee line," insert, "to unite with any Railroad which may be constructed for that purpose in the State of Tennessee."

Mr. Hemphill, of Attala, offered a substitute for the report of the committee on routes, which on motion was laid on the table.

On motion of J. D. Elliott, of Hinds, the report of the committee on routes, was laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Brooke, Resolved, That J. D. B. DeBow be invited to address the Convention at 3 o'clock this evening.

On motion of Mr. Cooke of Monroe, the Convention adjourned until seven o'clock.

Resolved, That the New Orleans and Jackson Railroad should be extended from Jackson, through the State, by the most central and practicable route, to the State line, so as to unite with such road or roads as may be projected thence, and designed to connect Nashville, Tennessee, with any great central Railroad improvement through Mississippi, connecting Nashville and New Orleans.

Mr. Berry moved the original Report on Routes be received, so far as it was not inconsistent with the substituted resolution, which was adopted.

On motion the Convention adjourned, until 7 o'clock.

7 o'clock.

The Convention met.

Col. Tarpley introduced Mr. DeBow of New Orleans, who addressed the Convention in a clear, able and eloquent style, on the subject of Railroads.

Col. McWille, by invitation, addressed the Convention.

Mr. Clapp, of Marshall, by invitation, delivered an able and dignified address on the subject of Railroads in Mississippi.

On motion of Col. Tarpley, the thanks of the meeting were tendered to the orators of the evening.

On motion of Judge Fitch, of Holmes, the following resolution was adopted.

Resolved, That we recommend the passage of an act, authorizing and requiring the Governor (whenever any company shall have graded and prepared any Railroad within the State, a distance of ten miles or more, ready for the iron,) to purchase the iron for such portion of the Road, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated; and that the State shall be entitled to stock in said Road, in proportion to the amount of such expenditure.

On motion, the newspapers in Jackson, and throughout the State, friendly to Railroad improvements, are requested to publish the proceedings of this Convention.

On motion, the Convention adjourned sine die. JOHN WATTS, President.

ROBERT BOWMAN, Secretary.

The following letter from the Hon. James Buchanan, of Pennsylvania, will be read with much interest. Being now upon the eve of a Presidential election, we are pleased to see candidates coming out boldly upon all points of importance in regard to the Rights of the States. Mr. B., in adopting Madison's Report, and Jefferson's Kentucky resolutions, has taken a step in advance of any northern man, who has been named for the Presidency. Read the letter below:

WHEELAND, DEAR LANCASTER, Dec. 24, 1851.

My Dear Sir: I am sorry I did not receive your letter sooner. I might then have given it the "old fashioned Democratic" answer which you desire. But I am compelled to leave home immediately; and it will be too late for the 31st of January Convention, I must, therefore be brief.

My public life is before the country; and it is my pride never to have evaded an important political question. The course of Democracy is always straight ahead, and public men who determine to pursue it never involve themselves in labyrinth, except when they turn to the right or the left from the plain forward path—Madison's Report and Jefferson's Kentucky Resolutions are the safest and surest guides to conduct a Democratic administration of the Federal Government. It is the true mission of Democracy to resist centralism and the absorption of unconstitutional powers by the President and Congress. The sovereignty of the States and a devotion to their reserved rights can alone preserve and perpetuate our happy system of Government. The exercise of doubtful and constructive powers on the part of Congress has produced all the dangerous and exciting questions which have imperiled the Union. The Federal Government, even confined within its strict constitutional limits, must necessarily acquire more and more influence through the increased and increasing expenditure of public money; and hence the greater necessity for public economy and watchful vigilance. Our constitution when it proceeded from the hands of its framers was a simple system; and the more free from complexity it remains, the more powerfully, satisfactorily and beneficially will it operate within its legitimate sphere.

It is centralization alone which has prevented the French people from establishing a permanent Republican Government and entailed upon them so many misfortunes. Had the provinces of France been converted into separate territorial sovereignties, like our State Governments, Paris would then no longer have been France and a revolution at the capital would not have destroyed the Federative Republic.

Had the principles I have enumerated been observed by the Federal Government and by the people of the several States, we should have avoided the alarming questions which have arisen out of the institution of Domestic Slavery. The people of each State would then, to employ a homely but expressive phrase, have attended to their own business and not have interfered in the domestic concerns of their sister States. But on this important subject I have so fully presented my views in the enclosed letter to the Great Meeting in Philadelphia, held in November 1850, that it would be useless to repeat them, even if time would permit. From your friend,

Very respectfully,
JAMES BUCHANAN.

To Col. GEORGE R. FALL.

Mr. Clay's Letter of Resignation.

The following letter of resignation from the Hon. Henry Clay, as we learn from the Louisville Courier, was read in both Houses of the Kentucky legislature on the 23d. ult.:

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17, 1851.

To the General Assembly of Kentucky:

When you did the honor to confer on me the appointment of a Senator from Kentucky, which I now hold, in accepting it I did not intend or expect to serve the entire term of six years. I had previously retired, finally, as I supposed, from that body, but out of the territorial acquisition resulting from the war with Mexico, momentous questions arose, seriously menacing the harmony and peace, if not the integrity of the Union. I felt it to be my duty to return again to the Senate, and to contribute my humble aid, by an amicable settlement of those questions, to avert the calamities with which we were threatened. Such a settlement was attempted during the last Congress, is now in progress of execution, and I trust and hope will accomplish all the good that could be expected from any great measure adopted to heal national divisions and animosity, which has risen to such an alarming height.

On the approach of the present Congress, it was with much hesitation, proceeding partly from my feeble state of health, that I concluded to return for the last time to the Senate; but I have no thought of ever again taking a seat in that body after the close of the present session. Having

contend for the Constitutional rights of the South, is not to assail the Union, or to weaken the bond which constitutes its strength. To assert as a last alternative the right of a State to secede * * *

"The platform of the Convention of last June, was State Rights, because it was Democratic; it was Democratic because it was State Rights."

The assertion of the Rights of the States by Jefferson and Madison was the foundation stone on which the temple of Democracy was built—the structure could not stand if the foundation should be destroyed."

"He said he had ascended to the platform of the June Convention, with the confidence 'due to the soundness of its materials; and though to him it had proved the scaffold for 'political execution, his confidence was not impaired, and at a future—no remote day—he believed some able champion would receive 'on that platform the laurel of the victor, instead of the fate of the martyr.'"

"We eat the following from the Canton, Mass., *Madisonian*, one of the truest State Rights, and most liberal exchanges on our books. Throughout the late campaign its whole course was dignified and able, and while it differed with us in regard to some minor points it treated our positions with consideration and respect. It is evident now to all reflecting men that our position was entitled to more respect from the press of the State than it received, and those who are now paying the penalty of their folly, snarl at us because we have refused to follow after their blind lead again. We shall stand fast. But read the following, it is conceived in the right spirit.

The Democrat Platform.

Once more the banner of Democracy floats proudly from the outer political wall. It bears the marks of the battle and the storm but its leading truths are yet legible upon its folds. "The greatest good of the greatest number under the limitations of a written Constitution."

"State sovereignty, State Rights and the rights of the people." The result of the deliberations of the late Convention held on the 8th, is now before the country for the carping of the unfair and disingenuous, and the candid criticism of the generous and patriotic. The result was not attained without those mental collisions which mark the assembly of freemen. We would wish never to see it otherwise when Democrats meet in council. The mountain torrent, while it sparkles, denoting at once its difficulties and its triumphs. Such is liberty. The standing pool is calm but the dwelling place of reptiles. Such is despotism. May the day never arrive in free America when the brethren of the free democracy may not think what they please and (with due deference to the rights and feelings of others) speak what they think.

We should like to have a peep at the resolutions which we learn from the *Journal of the Convention*, were offered by Messrs. Parks, Handy, Whitfield, Humphrey and Hooker, doubtless many of them correspond with those adopted by the Democratic primary meetings in Lowndes, Oktibbeha and Madison—advocating the necessity of adding a new plank to the platform of the National Convention of 1848; defining in language more distinct than heretofore the rights of the States and of the South. Those who are for this course constitute a class too respectable to be ridiculed, and too talented to be frowned down, besides being aided by the ablest press in the State—the *Southern Standard*. Who does not sympathize with men ready to stake their life for principle? Who like the sailors on board of the French frigate when sunk by a British 74, went down with all sails set and their gallant flag streaming, waving their caps and shouting *long live the Republic!*

But solemnity is not always safety, nor the path to glory the path of usefulness. The late Convention at Jackson met amidst acknowledged difficulties. It embodied the generous emotions of a great re-action, the scattered fragments of a routed army, yearning for fraternization and reunion, determined to cast upon each other no reproaches for the past, but to form into line and to present for the future an unbroken phalanx to the foe. Those who will take the trouble to read the able and patriotic speech of Col. Davis delivered in the Convention, and which we publish to-day, will be able to understand and appreciate the trying position in which the Convention found itself placed. At the same time they will have a much greater gratification—they who admire him—to find that speech that he has not lowered his flag one inch, nor swerved the hair breadth of an iota from that faith of Democratic State Rights, which in clarion notes he has heralded to his countrymen, and in honor of which he sacrificed princely fortune and station. To the calm reflecting mind the following sentence of the speech speaks volumes; it bespeaks we fear southern helplessness, and the conviction in the minds of Southern Statesmen that the foundation of our hopes for the future is secondary, resting rather upon the co-operation of others upon their own terms, than the possibility of our compelling them by any moral or political power that we possess—to acknowledge even the true theory of the Government.

"There was not such unanimity among Southern men as would give moral power to a sectional minority; and the history of the Democratic party, from the first struggle between State Rights and the spirit of Consolidation, pointed to it as the source from which our best, if not our only hope, must be drawn."

1. Notwithstanding all this we could have wished that the Convention had declared that no State taking its stand as a final resort against oppression could be coerced by the arms of the federal government.

2. That the citizens of a State withdrawing from the Union could not commit treason against the United States, by obeying the mandate of their own State.

3. That the citizens of each State were entitled to emigrate to the territories of the United States, with the property recognized in the State from which they emigrated and that Congress had no power to prevent such emigration.

4. That Congress have no power to exclude slavery from any of its public places in the slaveholding States or to prohibit the importation of slaves from one slaveholding State to another.

5. That no State can be refused admission into the Union because its constitution recognizes slavery.

Something like this (for these views are hastily sketched) we could wish had been presented by the late Democratic Convention, as a part of our political faith, and urged upon our delegates, by instructions to support it at Baltimore for incorporation there. At the same time we say we could have wished that this—and had we been of the Convention would have urged this course as a matter of right, and from a sense of duty, yet we are not one of those who observe our peculiar views are disregarded are ready to look with jaundiced eye upon the deliberate action of a majority of our friends. Conscious of acting from honest motives ourselves, we are ready and willing ever to accord honesty to others especially of our political brotherhood.

But we are proud of Col. Davis' speech and will dismiss the subject for the present with a few extracts to which we call particular attention.

"To deny the right of the federal government to use force against a State is not civil war. To

contend for the Constitutional rights of the South, is not to assail the Union, or to weaken the bond which constitutes its strength. To assert as a last alternative the right of a State to secede * * *

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